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**College-Wide Senate General Meeting**

**Savoy Multi-Purpose Room**

**Thursday, October 18, 2018**

**Senate Meeting Minutes**

**Present:**

* **Allied Health:** Professors Edward King, Sandra Castellanos, Manny Livingston
* **Behavioral and Social Sciences:** Professors Ernest Ialongo (Chairperson), Héctor Soto, Karen Steinmayer
* **Business:** Professors Claude Fernandez, Sandy Figueroa
* **CTL**: James Lujan
* **English:** Professors Alexandra Milsom, Tram Nguyen (Vice-Chairperson), Louis Bury
* **Education:** Professors Jacqueline DiSanto, Elys Vazquez-Iscan, Iris Mercado, Michael Gosset
* **Gittleson:**
* **Humanities:** Professors Natasha Yannacañedo, Isaac Goldenberg, Ana Ozuna
* **Language & Cognition:** Professor Thomas Mencher
* **Library:**  Jorge Matos
* **Mathematics:** Professors Lauren Wolf, A.J. Stachelek, Alexander Vaninsky
* **Natural Sciences:** Professor John Gillen
* **Higher Education Officers (HEO):** Ms. Yvette Luyando, Ms. Alba Lynch, Ms. Cynthia Morales-Delbrun, Ms. Carmen Sosa, Ms. Elizabeth Wilson, Ms. Iber Poma, Ms. Mercedes Moscat,
* **Public Safety/Maintenance:** P.O. Johanna Powell
* **University Faculty Senate (UFS):** Professors Julie Trachman, Gail August
* **Professional Staff Congress:** Professor Lizette Colon
* **Senate At-Large Representatives:** Professors Andrew Connolly, James Kennis, Clara Nieto Wire, Sherese Mitchell, Diana Macri, Nancy Genova, Thomas Beachdel, Mathew Moses
* **Senate Adjunct Representative:**
* **Student Government Association Representatives (SGA):** President Denise Herrera, Vice President Raziel BenReuben**,** Vice President Ines P. Alejandro Soriano, Executive Secretary Kelvin Pineda, Campus Affairs Comm. Destini Mitchell-Murray, Budget and Finance Comm. Oumar Diaby and Senators

Kaniah Aljamal, Foulemata Camara, Farhana Hussen, Khalifa Diao, Ronaldo Williams, Leyddy Ogando, Sarata Hydara, Stephan Kena and Jacqueline Lloyd.

**Absent (Excused)**

* **Gittleson:** Ms. Tanya Navarro
* **HEOs:** Carlos Guevara, Daliz Perez-Cabezas, Terrence Brown, Fabian Wander
* **Humanities:** Catherine Lewis
* **Adjunct:** Camilo Almonacid

**Absent**

* **Humanities:** Professors Victor Torres-Velez
* **Natural Sciences:** Professor Debasish Roy
* **At-Large Representative:** Professor William Casari
* **University Faculty Senate:** Professor Felipe Pimentel

**Vacant:**

* **Counseling (1)**
* **HCC Adjunct Representative (1)**
* **Language and Cognition (1)**
* **At-Large Representative (1)**

**Visitors:**

Mr. Shmuel Gerber (Parliamentarian), Associate Dean Ann Mester (OAA), Admissions Director Carlos Rivera, Professors Nieves Angulo and Dionicio Taveras (Mathematics Department).

***1. Call to Order***

* Quorum established at 38
* Senate called to order at 3:32 PM.

***2. Approval of the Agenda***

* Upon motion duly made and passed by acclamation, October Meeting Agenda as proposed by Chair was accepted.

***3. Approval of Thursday, September 20th College-Wide Senate Minutes***

* Accepted revisions to the September minutes:
  + Upon motion duly made minutes amended as follows:
    - To correct last name spelling under Visitor attendees of Carlos Rivera, not Rivers.
    - To correct spelling of the name of SGA Senator Farhana Hussen.
* Upon duly made motion, the Minutes of the September 2o, 2018 College-Wide Senate Meeting as amended were approved.

***4. Chair’s Remarks***

* As concerns new Senators:
  + Acknowledged and welcomed new SGA Senator Leyddy Ogando.
* As concerns Senate Committees and Student Representation on Committees:
  + Informed the Senate that all Senate Committees are fully staffed including each of the Committee’s student representatives.
    - Thanked SGA President Denise Herrera for her assistance in that regard and for providing all necessary information.
  + Asked that Committee Chairs check the College-Wide Senate website to confirm that its listed membership has been updated.

* As concerns elections:
  + Acknowledged the election of Professor Antonios Varelas of the Behavioral and Social Sciences Department to the College-Wide Personnel and Budget Committee.
  + Informed and advised the Senate regarding upcoming elections:
    - Senate At-Large Representative
    - Adjunct Faculty Senate Representative
    - College-Wide Representatives to the UFS including (in a few weeks):
      * One full-time faculty representative
      * Two full-time faculty alternates
      * One adjunct faculty alternate
  + Acknowledged and thanked Professor James Kennis and his colleagues of the College-Wide Senate Elections Committee for their continuing good work especially in light of the number and complexity of elections being conducted.
  + Reported that the results of the Hostos Association and Auxiliary Services Committee elections were submitted to the college President and that he subsequently made the following appointments:
    - Auxiliary Services Corporation

Professor Charles Drago

* + - Hostos Association

Professor Natasha Yannacañedo

Professor Sherese Mitchell

Professor Manuel Livingston

* + Noted that the appointments were for a one year term, and reminded the relevant VP’s conducting the meetings of these committees to schedule meetings during the academic year to ensure that the faculty and students are fully represented.
* As concerns use of “clickers” in lieu of paper ballots for voting:
  + Reported that he has asked College-Wide Senate Vice Chair Professor Tram Nguyen and Professor Catherine Lewis to initiate meetings with Ed Tech and IT departments to determine the plausibility, given available technology, of implementing the use of clickers for College-Wide Senate voting.

***5. President’s Remarks:***

* As concerns the State of the College:
  + Reported that the college graduation rate is up to 24% and thanked all for their continuing efforts and support.
  + Reported that the college enrollment is stable.
  + Informed the College-Wide Senate that his complete State of the College address was now available online at the Hostos College Website.
* As concerns the Budget:
  + Reported that the budget looked good. However, the request to the state was being complicated by what is referred to as the “TAP Gap”, that is, the difference between the cost of tuition and what TAP actually pays. Unlike previously, this year CUNY and SUNY differ due to enrollment trend differences on how to approach the state on the budget allocation which could be problematic.
* As concerns the civic engagement of the Hostos College community:
  + Acknowledged and thanked all members of the Hostos College community who during the past year have been a part of the college’s response in support of Puerto Rico’s recovery effort.
  + Noted the importance of voting within our democratic system of government and encouraged all members of the Hostos College community to exercise their right to vote this upcoming election day, November 6th.

***6. SGA President’s Remarks:***

***SGA President Denise Herrera delivered the SGA report***

* As concerns SGA activities:
  + Reported on the successful SGA Voting activity held during September to address the low voter participation among CUNY students including at Hostos. A professor from John Jay College of Criminal Justice was the featured presenter. Students were advised concerning the importance of voting, voter registration, where to vote and the mechanics of voting. Students were also advised regarding how to deal with there not being a candidate on the ballot that s/he favors.
  + Reported on SGA efforts to address issues concerning access to the free MetroCards available to eligible students. The SGA is working on the issues with Jerry Rosa, Director of the Office of Student Activities.
  + Reported on the SGA sponsored Hostos Student Clubs Forum held the previous day (Oct 17th). The purpose of the Club Forum was to have the various Clubs come together in the spirit of collaboration with a goal of having the clubs and their membership develop a deeper understanding of their responsibilities to the general student body. The forum also had as a goal improvement of cooperation between the clubs. The club representatives during the forum engaged in activities that challenged their critical thinking skills and creativity, especially regarding how to leverage student body diversity, to promote the goals of the forum. Participant feedback after the event was very positive.
  + Announced that SGA Scholarship applications will be available within two weeks on the Hostos Scholarship website together with applications and information regarding other available scholarships. Those present at the meeting were asked to disseminate the information.
  + Announced that the SGA will sponsor on November 1st a Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) activity. Dia de los Muertos is a day for the remembrance and honoring of deceased family members celebrated primarily in Mexico and other Central American nations.
  + Announced that on November 21st the SGA will host its GPA Watch activity. This event is meant to provide students with information regarding resources and support services offered by the college. This is important in regard to graduation rates as effective utilization of the available resources and services can potentially help improve a student’s academic standing.

***7. Curricular Items***

*Professor Sandy Figueroa, Chair of the College-Wide Curriculum Committee, coordinated the Curricular Items presentations. She thanked the Business and Mathematic Departments for their work and cooperation regarding their respective curricular items.*

* **Action 1: Business Department**
  + Changes to courses BUS 110, BUS 201, BUS 210, BUS 230, BUS 240 as well as courses ACC 100 and ACC 110 and course OT 101 presented for consideration and voting as a single curricular item.
    - Proposed changes are to eliminate BUS 100 as either a prerequisite of above cited BUS courses, and as a c0-requisite for the above listed ACC courses as an unneeded course requirement that impedes student advancement.
    - Proposed change for the three credit OT 101 course is a reduction of hours from 4 to 3 especially given that the course is a hybrid.
    - Professor Sandy Figueroa, as faculty of the Business Department, presented the rationale and explanation for the proposed changes.
  + Debate and discussion ensued concerning the proposed changes.
  + Upon there being no further questions or comments, Chairman Ialongo made a motion to end debate and call the question, which motion was duly seconded and approved, and thereafter a secret ballot vote was taken.
  + **Action 1 Results**: **Item passed**.
    - **Yes: 55 No: 0 Abstain: 2 Invalid: 0.**
* **Action 2: Mathematics Department**
  + Changes to courses MAT 119 and MAT 120 presented for consideration and voting as a single curricular item.
    - Proposed changes are to require higher English or ESL prerequisites or co-requisites for the courses so as to provide students with ability to better understanding the nuances of English necessary for the courses. In addition, to align the language of the proposed course changes so as to be identical for each.
    - Professor A.J. Stachelek of the Mathematics Department presented the rationale and explanation for the proposed changes.
  + Debate and discussion ensued that raised issues concerning the alternative of offering the cited courses in Spanish and other languages, creation of a departmental glossary of terms as well as questions related to the history and role of the college.
    - Debate and discussion required clarification of debate-discussion rules by the Chair.
  + Motion to amend duly made to modify original Mathematics Department proposed changes by adding “SPA 121 or equivalent” as an alternative co-requisite for courses MAT 119 and MAT 120.

i. Debate and discussion ensued on proposed amendment.

ii. Amendment to amendment duly made to add language

stating “if course offered in Spanish”. Amendment to

the amendment accepted without debate and discussion.

iii. There being no further questions or comments, Chairman Ialongo made a motion to end debate and call the question. Motion was duly seconded and approved, and thereafter upon open vote the amendment to add “SPA 121 or equivalent if offered in Spanish” as an alternative c0-requisite for courses MAT 119 and MAT 120 was adopted.

* + There being no further debate or discussion on the proposed changes to MAT 119 and MAT 120 as amended, Chairman Ialongo made a motion to end debate and call the question, which motion was duly seconded and approved, and thereafter a secret ballot vote was taken.
  + **Action 2 Results: Item passed.**
    - **Yes: 52 No: 8 Abstain: 0 Invalid: 0.**
* **Action 3: Mathematics Department**
  + Proposed Pathways designation and course submission for MAT 150.
  + There were no questions or comments regarding the submittal.
  + Chairman Ialongo therefore made a motion to call the question.
  + Motion was accepted by acclamation and question was called, and thereafter a secret ballot vote was taken.
  + **Results of Action 3**: **Item passed**.
    - **Yes: 56, No: 0, Abstain: 1, Invalid: 2.**

**8**. ***Non-Curricular Voting Items***

* None

***9. Reports of Senate Standing Committees***

* Senate Budget and Finance Committee
  + Chairman Ialongo, as Committee Chair, reported on meeting with College Senior Vice President Esther Rodriguez-Chardavoyne regarding the Hostos budget process and the role of the Senate.
  + Memorandum explaining process was prepared and distributed to all members of the committee.
  + Memorandum will then be shared with the College-wide community and posted on the Senate website.
* Senate Scholarship and Grants Committee
  + Chairman Ialongo, on behalf of this committee, informed the Senate of various scholarships particular to departments or through SGA of which students should be advised and encouraged to apply.

***10. University Faculty Senate (UFS) Report***

* ***UFS Report****for Oct. 2, 2018 Plenary Session**(for HCC Senate Session, Oct. 18, 2018)*

*I)Some points from our invited guest, Interim Chancellor Vita Rabinowitz: a)asked for our help in dealing with campus climate issues and reflected on issues such as diversity that are also concerns of society as a whole\*  b)reminded us of some of the threats against higher education,  some of these possibly as a result of pending government regulatory actions  c)mentioned some of the CUNY initiatives that recently had begun such as the Academic Momentum initiative d)mentioned that CUNY has an interest in reconvening the discipline councils with the intent of helping CUNY become more integrated e)expressed on more than occasion, the recognition of the importance of shared governance.*

*II)A few points extracted from the presentations of several of the UFS standing and advisory committees: a)the “Freedom of Expression” will be resurfacing – to be dealt with eventually by the CUNY Board of Trustees, et al. b)a survey will be sent out in the near future asking about the existence of Academic Freedom Committees at the various CUNY campuses c)there will be another COACHE survey soon d)from the Academic Affairs Committee: i)will be looking at CUNY’s online course initiative ii)reminded us that the 5 year assessment of Pathways will be coming soon iii)will be looking at CUNY’s push to end offering of remedial courses iv)will be looking at “prioritization” criteria that is intended to help us eliminate redundancies v)will be looking at the impact of the Akademos bookstore e)from the Enrollment Management Committee: will be looking at changing enrollment patterns at CUNY campuses.*

*\*Addendum from the UFS minutes: especially regarding sexual harassment and diversity of opinion.*

***11. Old Business***

* + None

***12. New Business***

* As concerns Hostos 50th Year Anniversary activity regarding 1960’s activism:
  + Senator wanted to publicly acknowledge and congratulate participants on the activity
* As concerns making Hostos more welcoming and avoiding food risks:
  + Senator raised issue of the dangers posed by unlabeled foods served at Hostos activities that pose a threat of allergic reactions, or that could cause a person to unknowingly violate his/her religious precepts. Senator suggested a food identification and labeling requirement.
  + Chairman Ialongo clarified that the Senator’s issue, although concerning, was not appropriate as a matter under New Business. Recommended that Senator make a motion to have the Senate consider a formal resolution regarding the issue for the next Senate meeting.
  + Motion made and approved as a Non-Curricular Voting Item for next Senate.

***13. Adjournment***

* Meeting was adjourned at 4:58 PM upon motion duly made and passed.

***Minutes Prepared by Professor Hector W. Soto, Public Policy and Law Unit, Behavioral and Social Sciences Department / Senate Recording Secretary***